

Gaagudju language

Gaagudju (also spelt **Gagadu**, **Gaguju**, and **Kakadu**) is an extinct Australian Aboriginal language formerly spoken in Arnhem Land in northern Australia, in the environs of Kakadu National Park. Its last speaker, Big Bill Neidjie, died on 23 May 2002.

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Gaagudju	
Region	Northern Territory
Ethnicity	Gaagudju, Watta
Extinct	May 2002, with the death of Big Bill Neidjie
Language family	Macro-Gunwinyguan? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Gaagudju
Dialects	Wada
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	gbu
Glottolog	gaga1251 (http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/gaga1251) ^[1]
AIATSIS^[2]	N50 (https://collection.aiatsis.gov.au/auslang/language/N50)
	
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Classification

Gaagudju has traditionally been classified with the Gunwinyguan languages. However, in 1997 Nicholas Evans proposed an Arnhem Land family that includes Gaagudju.

Phonology

Vowels

	Front	Back
High	i i:	u u:
Mid	e e:	o o:
Low	a a:	

Consonants

	Peripheral		Laminal	Apical	
	Bilabial	Velar	Palatal	Alveolar	Retroflex
Stop	p	k	c	t	t̪
Nasal	m	ŋ	ɳ	n	ɳ
Lateral			ɺ	l	ɭ
Rhotic				r	ɻ
Semivowel	w		j		

References

1. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Gaagudju" (<http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/gaga1251>). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.
2. N50 (<https://collection.aiatsis.gov.au/austlang/language/N50>) Gaagudju at the Australian Indigenous Languages Database, [Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies](#)
 - Harvey, Mark (2002). *A Grammar of Gaagudju*. Walter de Gruyter.

External links

- [AusAnthrop Australian Aboriginal tribal database](http://www.ausanthrop.net/resources/ausanthrop_db/detail.php?id_search=192) (http://www.ausanthrop.net/resources/ausanthrop_db/detail.php?id_search=192)

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